

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY
SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY	Yugoslavia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Expulsion of Blagoje Neskovic from Union of Yugoslav Communists	DATE DISTR.	26 March 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

1. In November 1952, at a session of the VI Congress of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia (CPY), it was announced that Blagoje Neskovic¹, former member of the Yugoslav Politburo and Vice Premier of the Yugoslav Federal Government, was under investigation on suspicion of Cominformism. Marshal Tito stated that all Party organizations had been notified of this decision by special letter sent out by the Central Committee of the CPY. However, only Party organizations in the district from which Neskovic was to be elected as delegate to the VI CPY Congress had received this letter prior to the opening of the Congress.
2. In the letter on Neskovic, which was dated 21 October 1952, the Politburo of the Communist Party of Serbia (CPS) decided to have Neskovic's activities and behavior investigated by the Politburo of the CPY, the reason for this decision being the election of delegates to the VI CPY Congress. In its letter to the Politburo of the CPY, the Politburo of the CPS stressed the fact that it was impossible to back Neskovic as a candidate without disclosing to the Party organization which would appoint him as a delegate to the VI Party Congress, his hesitation and vacillation on such a fatal problem as that of the struggle against the Cominform. The Politburo of the CPS also pointed out Neskovic's weaknesses and errors in the period preceding the Cominform resolution.¹
3. The Politburo of the CPY, therefore, appointed a committee of four members to investigate Neskovic's case and to submit a report which would include suggestions for action to be taken against Neskovic. During the course of investigation by this committee, Neskovic confessed that his stand in the face of the Soviet aggressive policy toward Yugoslavia had been that of a petty politician and of a schemer. Neskovic attempted to justify his political conduct through the claim of fear that a "too severe" anti-Soviet policy might provoke vacillation among some Party members. He added that he was otherwise in complete agreement with the policy of the CPY leaders. Neskovic also declared that since he had failed to live up to his task and to the trust which the Party had placed in him, he did not deserve to be a CPY leader. The investigating committee suggested that the

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC									
-------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

25 YEAR

RE-REVIEW

25X1

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

- 2 -

Politburo of the CPY should not permit Neskovic to take part in the VI Party Congress. The suggestion was adopted by the CPY Politburo.

4. A second letter on Neskovic, which was dated 27 November 1952, after the investigating committee had completed its inquiry into the case, and had interrogated Neskovic and other individuals connected with his case, declared that the Executive Committee of the Union of Yugoslav Communists had arrived at the following conclusions, based on the report of the investigating committee:
 - a. Neskovic had shown pro-Cominform sympathies since the Cominform resolution was published and he had tried to conceal these differences under the guise of alleged differences in tactics. Neskovic's pro-Cominform sympathies had been evident during his various public appearances as well as in private discussions with CPY members. In discussions concerned with the defense of Yugoslavia in the event of Soviet attack, Neskovic had always reacted in such a manner as to confirm beyond any doubt not only his vacillation and confusion, but also his complete capitulation in the face of such an eventuality;
 - b. Neskovic quoted Stalin in articles as late as 1950, despite the fact that the Party had already discovered Stalin's revisionism and had begun to fight it. Neskovic obviously wanted to make it difficult for the CPY to fight Cominformism;
 - c. At the time of the Rajk trial, Neskovic disagreed with several CPY members who expressed justified doubts on the fairness of such trials, even in the Soviet Union. In this way, he weakened the struggle against the Rajk trial and made difficult the unmasking of the actual situation in the Soviet Union, as well as the criminal, anti-democratic and anti-socialist Soviet policy.
 - d. Neskovic tried to give the impression of being a faithful follower of the CPY policy, but in reality, his standpoint was that of an opportunist and his tendency was to capitulate to Cominformist pressure.
 - e. Neskovic lacked a sense of collectivity; he was rough and arbitrary in both his work and his relations with other persons, and had been severely criticized for his conduct several times.
5. At a session held on 27 November 1952, the Executive Committee of the Union of Yugoslav Communists voted to expel Blagoje Neskovic from the Union because of his pro-Cominform beliefs.

1. Comment:

25X1

Neskovic had been arrested on charges of Cominformism a few days before.

25X1

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY